

Claim Status

1. (Currently Amended) A method of communicating a warning signal comprising:
 - mounting a transmitter ~~/receiver~~ and a receiver to an emergency vehicle that outputs a digital signal that is detectable within a range;
 - said transmitter ~~/receiver~~ blanked from turning off its own signal at periodic intervals to allow receipt by said receiver of a but capable of receiving the signal of approaching from other emergency vehicles in the vicinity;
 - mounting ~~[[a]]~~ an additional receiver in a private or commercial motor vehicle that responds to the digital signal from the transmitter ~~/receiver~~ of a transmitting emergency vehicle to detect said digital signal ;
 - transmitting a digital signal from the transmitter when an emergency vehicle light bar but not a siren of said emergency vehicle is actuated; and
 - displaying a visual warning from a visual indicator mounted to the private or commercial motor vehicle or other emergency vehicle in response by a receiver to of receipt of the digital signal from ~~the~~ an emergency vehicle transmitter~~/receiver~~ to warn a motorist in the private or commercial vehicle and/or an other emergency vehicle of a presence of the ~~transmitting~~ emergency vehicle whose light bar has been actuated is within said range.
2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the digital signal is transmitted by ~~an a~~ single ultra high frequency signal shared by all agencies equipped with a transmitter.
3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the digital signal is encoded with information conveying the type of emergency vehicle from which the digital signal is originating that is shared by other emergency vehicles.
4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the transmitter of an emergency vehicle

outputs a digital signal that occurs at periodic intervals and is periodically turned off for 3 – 5 seconds while the receiver of said emergency vehicle monitors signals originating from other emergency vehicles.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiver of said emergency vehicle is responsive to a single universal frequency signal encoded with the digital signal that is shared by other emergency disciplines using the warning system regardless of different agencies and different dispatchers.

6. (currently amended) Apparatus for communicating a warning signal comprising:

a transmitter in ~~an~~ a first emergency vehicle that outputs a digital signal that is detectable within a range and is periodically turned off, said transmitter including means responsive to actuation of an emergency vehicle light bar for outputting said digital signal;

a receiver mounted to a private or commercial motor vehicle that responds to the digital signal from the transmitter in an emergency vehicle to detect said digital signal ; ~~and~~

visual indicator mounted to the private or commercial motor vehicle that is activated in response to the digital signal from the transmitter of an emergency vehicle to warn a motorist in said motor vehicle of a presence of the emergency vehicle within said range ; and

a receiver and visual indicator mounted within the first emergency vehicle that responds to other transmitters in other emergency vehicles during the period the transmitted signal of the first emergency vehicle is turned off regardless of the government agency to which the emergency vehicle is assigned.

7. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the digital signal is transmitted by ~~an~~ a single ultra high frequency signal used by all government agencies.

8. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the digital signal is encoded to convey the type of emergency vehicle from which the digital signal is originating.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the transmitter of an emergency vehicle outputs a digital signal that occurs at periodic intervals.

10. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the receiver of said emergency vehicle is responsive to a single universal frequency signal encoded with the digital signal.

11. (currently amended) Apparatus comprising:

a receiver adapted for mounting in a private or commercial motor vehicle that responds to detection of ~~[[a]]~~ one universal digital signal that conveys ~~conveying~~ an emergency vehicle type or emergency vehicle identification originating from an emergency vehicle ~~by~~ initiating an output signal by turning on its light bar; and

a display mounted to the private or commercial motor vehicle for displaying a visual warning in response to the output signal from the receiver; said display including a visual indicator mounted to the private or commercial motor vehicle , which in response to the digital signal from the transmitter warns a motorist and/or an other emergency vehicle of a presence of the emergency vehicle within a range by displaying an indication of vehicle type or identification.

Please cancel claim 12 – 14 without prejudice or disclaimer

12 – 14 . (cancelled)

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the digital signal conveys a vehicle type.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the digital signal conveys a unique vehicle identification.

Please cancel claim 17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

17. (cancelled)

18. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the digital signal conveys a vehicle type.

19. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the digital signal conveys a unique vehicle identification.

20. (currently amended) A method of communicating a warning signal comprising:

mounting a transmitter ~~/receiver~~ and a receiver to an emergency vehicle and outputting a digital signal at periodic intervals that is detectable within a distance range in response to actuation of the emergency vehicle light bar;

~~blanking turning off~~ the transmitter ~~/receiver~~ from its own signal during the periodic intervals but receiving the while allowing the receiver to directly respond to signals ~~signal~~ from other, ~~approaching~~ emergency vehicles emitting the digital signal that are within the distance range;

mounting a an additional receiver in a private or commercial motor vehicle that responds to the digital signal from the transmitter~~/receiver~~ of a transmitting emergency vehicle to detect said digital signal ; and

displaying a visual warning from a visual indicator mounted to the motor vehicle in response to a receiver receiving a ~~the~~ digital signal from the transmitter~~/receiver~~ to warn a motorist and/or an other emergency vehicle of a presence of the transmitting emergency vehicle within said range.

21. (currently amended) Apparatus for communicating a warning signal comprising:

a transmitter in an emergency vehicle that outputs a digital signal at periodic intervals that is detectable within a distance range in response to actuation of the emergency vehicle light bar;

a first receiver mounted in a private or commercial motor vehicle that responds to the digital signal from the transmitter in said emergency vehicle to detect said digital signal ;

a visual indicator mounted to the private or commercial motor vehicle that is activated in response to the digital signal from the transmitter to warn a motorist in said motor vehicle of a

presence of the emergency vehicle within said range ; and

~~an additional~~ a receiver in the emergency vehicle that is ~~blanked~~ turned off during transmission output intervals of the transmitter for monitoring signals originating from other emergency vehicles.

Please add new claim 22 and 23 as follows:

22. (new) The apparatus of claim 6 additionally comprising a switch for actuation the emergency vehicle light bar.

23. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein transmitters and receivers in multiple emergency vehicles directly communicate without intermediate communications by means of a universal frequency transmitted between vehicles within said range.